

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20 NSC-07 NSCE-00

SSO-00 CCO-00 RSC-01 /073 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/P:MJERABEK:VRM/SS

APPROVED BY CWG:WKONTOS

S/S-O - R KUCHEL

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O R 222333Z JUL 74

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INFO USNMR SHAPE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, CY

SUBJECT:PRESS CONFERENCE BY SECRETARY KISSINGER ON CYPRUS

SITUATION JULY 22

FOLLOWING IS COMPLETE TRANSCRIPT OF SECRETARY'S PRESS
CONFERENCE.

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I THOUGHT I WOULD REVIEW FOR YOU THE
EVENTS OF THE LAST 36 HOURS TO TELL YOU WHERE WE ARE
AND WHAT IS LIKELY TO HAPPEN NOW; AND TAKE A FEW QUESTIONS
CONFINED TO THE CYPRUS SITUATION, GREECE AND TURKEY ON A
SOMEWHAT INFORMAL BASIS.

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ON SATURDAY IN SAN CLEMENTE I GAVE A REVIEW OF THE DIPLOMACY OF LAST WEEK; SO LET ME PICK IT UP FROM SATURDAY:

AFTER THE TURKISH LANDING, OUR EFFORTS WERE, FIRST, TO PREVENT A GREEK-TURKISH WAR FROM ERUPTING;

SECONDLY, TO KEEP OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF A SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS ISSUES ALONG CONSTITUTIONAL LINES; AND

THIRDLY, TO PREVENT A FURTHER INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE CONFLICT.

OBVIOUSLY, THE PRIME NECESSITY FOR THIS WAS TO BRING ABOUT A CEASE-FIRE. WE OPERATED WITH GREAT INTENSITY, BOTH IN ANKARA AND ATHENS. JOE SISCO WAS IN ATHENS WHEN THE INVASION OCCURRED. AND WHEN THE TURKISH LANDINGS IN CYPRUS OCCURRED, HE SPENT SATURDAY MORNING IN ATHENS, AND THEN WENT BACK TO ANKARA.

HE RECEIVED A TURKISH AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO A CEASE-FIRE, WHICH HE THEN TOOK BACK TO ATHENS -- AT WHICH POINT ALL THE PARTIES DISCOVERED THAT IT WAS EASY TO TELEPHONE WASHINGTON; AND WE WERE IN VERY INTENSIVE CONTACT WITH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT, THE GREEK PRIME MINISTER, FOREIGN MINISTER CALLAGHAN, THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER AND TOWARDS THE END THE GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER.

OUR EFFORT THROUGHOUT WAS THAT THIS WAS AN ISSUE AFFECTING NATO, AFFECTING WESTERN EUROPE, IN WHICH WE SHOULD WORK IN THE CLOSEST COOPERATION WITH OUR ALLIES AND PARTICULARLY WITH GREAT BRITAIN, WHICH HAD A RELATIONSHIP AS ONE OF THE GUARANTORS OF THE ZURICH AGREEMENT. THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD, AS I POINTED OUT SATURDAY, THERE HAS BEEN A COMPLETE UNANIMITY AS TO OBJECTIVE AND VERY SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES IN EVERY FACET OF THE DIPLOMATIC PROCESS, AND A COMPLETE COORDINATION OF OUR EFFORTS.

THERE HAS ALSO BEEN A VERY CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER IN HIS CAPACITY OF PRESIDENT OF

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THE COMMUNITIES COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. AND IT WAS IN THIS MANNER THAT WE PROCEEDED.

NOW I WON'T GO THROUGH ALL THE COMPLICATIONS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS DURING THE DAY, WHICH WERE PURSUED ON TWO TRACKS.

THE UNITED STATES CONCENTRATED ON GETTING THE CEASE-FIRE;

THE UNITED KINGDOM CONCENTRATED ON GETTING THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS STARTED AFTER THE CEASE-FIRE. THE ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO GET A CEASE-FIRE ESTABLISHED AND THEN HAVE THE UNITED KINGDOM INVITE GREECE AND TURKEY TO A MEETING.

THE DIFFICULTIES DURING THE DAY AROSE BECAUSE, AS ALWAYS IN THESE CEASE-FIRE NEGOTIATIONS, THERE WERE INFINITE TECHNICAL DISPUTES -- FOR AT ONE POINT THE TURKS THOUGHT THAT A GREEK FLEET WAS APPROACHING CYPRUS -- AND WERE RELUCTANT TO MAKE A CEASE-FIRE WHILE THE GREEK FLEET WAS APPROACHING CYPRUS. THE GREEKS DENIED THAT THERE WAS A GREEK FLEET.

TO DO ALL OF THIS ON TRANS-ATLANTIC TELEPHONE HAD MANY

COMPLEXITIES. THERE WAS, IN FACT, SOME DISPUTE ON WHETHER IT MIGHT BE A TURKISH FLEET.

I WON'T PURSUE THE COMPLEXITY OF MILITARY OPERATIONS IN A CONFUSED SITUATION. ALL I WANT TO SAY IS THAT THIS HAS DELAYED MATTERS SOMEWHAT.

THEN IN THE AFTERNOON, THE TURKISH PRIME MINISTER CALLED OVER HERE WITH A PROPOSAL THAT HE WOULD ACCEPT A CEASE-FIRE IN PRINCIPLE PROVIDED THE GREEKS WOULD SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO ANY PLACE IN EUROPE, AND THEN AT THAT PLACE THEY WOULD NEGOTIATE THE MODALITIES OF THE CEASE-FIRE, AFTER WHICH THE CEASE-FIRE WOULD GO INTO EFFECT.

EACH ONE OF THESE PHONE CALLS -- AND A COMPLEX SERIES OF PHONE CALLS -- THEN INVOLVED SISCO IN ATHENS. AND IT WAS APPARENT THAT WE WEREN'T GOING TO GET ANYWHERE

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ON THIS BASIS BECAUSE THE GREEKS, PREDICTABLY, REJECTED THIS.

AND SO ABOUT SIX O'CLOCK YESTERDAY AFTERNOON WE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE TIME TO COME UP WITH AN AMERICAN PROPOSAL -- AND THEREFORE, WE PROPOSED TO THE TURKISH PRIME MINISTER THAT, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CALLAGHAN AND THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER, WE PROPOSED TO THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER THAT A CEASE-FIRE GO INTO EFFECT.

WE GAVE THE TIME AT 1400 TODAY GREENWICH MEAN TIME, AND THAT THIS SHOULD BE FOLLOWED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY BY NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY, UNDER UNITED KINGDOM AUSPICES.

THIS WAS SUPPORTED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM AND BY FRANCE -- AND FRANCE, IN TURN, WAS BACKED BY THE NINE.

TURKEY ACCEPTED THIS AROUND NINE O'CLOCK LAST NIGHT -- OR EIGHT O'CLOCK LAST NIGHT -- AND THEN WE HAD TO GET GREEK ACCEPTANCE.

HAVING OBTAINED GREEK ACCEPTANCE, THE PROBLEM WAS TO FIND A MEANS BETWEEN TWO PARTIES THAT HAVE NO GREAT CONFIDENCE IN EACH OTHER TO ACHIEVE A SIMULTANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENT SO THAT EACH PARTY WOULD HAVE ENOUGH CONFIDENCE THAT AN ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD, IN FACT, BE MADE.

AND THIS LED TO THE SOLUTION THAT WE WOULD MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT HERE, AND AFTER THAT, EACH PARTY WOULD CONFIRM OUR ANNOUNCEMENT.

BUT THESE ARE THE MECHANICS OF HOW THE CEASE-FIRE WAS ACHIEVED. THE PROBLEM NOW IS, "WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?" OUR EXPECTATION IS THAT WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, HOPEFULLY BY WEDNESDAY, PROBABLY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF GREECE AND TURKEY WILL MEET UNDER BRITISH AUSPICES IN GENEVA AND THESE TALKS CAN SETTLE THE CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS OF CYPRUS AND ALL OTHER ISSUES THAT STEM FROM RECENT EVENTS. AND WE BELIEVE, THEREFORE, THAT A UNCLASSIFIED

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RATHER COMPLICATED CRISIS WHICH HAD DANGERS OF INTERNATIONALIZATION HAS BEEN OVERCOME.

WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE SOVIET UNION THROUGHOUT, AND WE BELIEVE THAT THERE WILL BE NO COMPLICATIONS FROM THAT SIDE. AND THESE EXCHANGES HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTIVE.

SO WE HOPE THAT DURING THE COURSE OF THE WEEK WE CAN MOVE THE SITUATION TOWARDS A SOLUTION THAT WILL BE ACCEPTABLE. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS, WITH WHICH YOU'RE FAMILIAR, THAT THERE MAY BE A COUP IN GREECE AT THIS MOMENT. BUT WE HAVE VERY SKETCHY REPORTS, AND WE CAN'T FORM ANY CLEAR JUDGMENT AS TO THE COMPLEXION OF THE FORCES THAT MIGHT TAKE OVER THE GOVERNMENT. AND I'M NOT CONFIRMING THAT EITHER OFFICIALLY. WE'VE HAD NO OFFICIAL WORD. WE HAVE HAD THE FRAGMENTARY REPORTS THAT YOU ALWAYS GET AT THE BEGINNING OF A CRISIS.

SO THIS IS WHERE WE ARE. I'LL BE GLAD TO ANSWER A FEW QUESTIONS.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, DID YOU THREATEN TO CUT OFF MILITARY AID TO BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY IN ORDER TO GET THEM TO ACCEPT THE CEASE-FIRE?

A: I MADE CLEAR ON SATURDAY IN SAN CLEMENTE THAT NO WAR WOULD BE FOUGHT BETWEEN NATO ALLIES WITH AN OPEN AMERICAN SUPPLY LINE. SO THIS PUT A LIMIT TO THE ESCALATION THAT COULD BE CONDUCTED.

AS TO THE OTHER STEPS THAT WERE TAKEN, THERE WERE NO SPECIFIC THREATS MADE. IT WAS VERY CLEAR THAT WE WOULD CONSIDER A CONTINUATION OF A MILITARY CONFRONTATION BETWEEN NATO ALLIES AS A VERY GRAVE MATTER.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, I GET THE IMPRESSION THAT "CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS," A PHRASE WHICH HAS BEEN USED FREQUENTLY, IS A CODEWORD FOR SOMETHING ELSE. DOES IT MEAN A REVERSAL OF THE COUP WHICH TOOK PLACE A WEEK

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AGO AND THE REMOVAL OF MR. SAMPSON?

A: AT THE RISK OF AGAIN BEING CRITICIZED OF TILTING,

LEANING, OR OTHER ADJECTIVES, WE BELIEVE CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS INVOLVE A SOLUTION WITHIN THE OBVIOUSLY CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK WHICH EXISTED IN CYPRUS BEFORE THE COUP. AND IT IS ONE OF THE SUBJECTS FOR NEGOTIATION AMONG THE PARTIES IN GENEVA.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, COULD THAT INVOLVE A RETURN TO POWER OF ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS?

A: THAT IS CERTAINLY NOT EXCLUDED.

Q: WILL HE BE IN GENEVA?

A: I DO NOT BELIEVE HE WILL BE IN GENEVA IN THE FIRST INSTANCE. BUT I BELIEVE THAT IN THE FIRST INSTANCE THE FRAMEWORK OF THOSE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE THE SAME AS THE ONE THAT ESTABLISHED THE ORIGINAL ARRANGEMENTS. BUT I EXPECT, AS YOU KNOW, TO SEE ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS THIS AFTERNOON AND WILL GET THE BENEFIT OF HIS VIEWS.

Q: HOW WELL IS THE CEASE-FIRE GOING?

A: WELL, THE CEASE-FIRE BETWEEN MILITARY FORCES IS GOING, APPARENTLY, VERY WELL. HOWEVER, THERE IS ALSO COMMUNAL FIGHTING GOING ON. AND THERE, IT IS,

APPARENTLY, NOT HOLDING QUITE AS WELL.

WE HAVE BEEN IN URGENT CONTACT WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL. I TALKED TO HIM AT SOME LENGTHS THIS MORNING. AND SECRETARY BUFFUM HAS ALSO BEEN IN CONTACT WITH HIM. AND I'VE ALSO TALKED TO THE TURKISH PRIME MINISTER ON THE TELEPHONE THIS MORNING WITH A VIEW TOWARDS STRENGTHENING THE UN FORCES THERE TO ASSURE COMMUNAL PEACE. AND WE HAVE BEEN ASSURED OF THE COOPERATION OF ALL THE PARTIES.

Q: WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "COMMUNAL FIGHTING", MR. UNCLASSIFIED

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SECRETARY?

A: COMMUNAL FIGHTING BETWEEN THE GREEK AND TURKISH COMMUNITIES ON THE ISLAND AS OPPOSED TO THE CYPRIOT AND TURKISH MILITARY FORCES ON THE ISLAND.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, COULD YOU ADDRESS YOURSELF IN MORE DETAIL -- I KNOW IT'S DIFFICULT -- TO THE GENEVA TALKS -- WHAT THE MANDATE FOR THE TALKS WILL INCLUDE? WILL THEY INCLUDE, AS WELL AS A SETTLEMENT OF THE CURRENT CRISIS, THE LONGER-TERM ISSUES WHICH HAVE BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION FOR MANY YEARS BETWEEN THE TURKS AND THE GREEKS?

A: WELL, OBVIOUSLY, IF THERE IS A DOMESTIC UPHEAVAL IN GREECE AT THIS MOMENT, IT IS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT WHAT EACH PARTY IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS. MOREOVER, THESE TALKS ARE BEING CONDUCTED UNDER BRITISH AUSPICES AND, THEREFORE, THEY WILL HAVE TO TAKE A LEADING ROLE IN IT. THE UNITED STATES VIEW WOULD BE THAT IN VIEW OF RECENT EVENTS, ONE SHOULD GO TO THE ROOT OF THE ISSUES AND ATTEMPT TO SETTLE ALL THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES AFFECTING GREECE AND TURKEY, PARTICULARLY AS THEY BEAR ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, YOU SAID EARLIER YOU DIDN'T -- YOU WERE NOT CONFIRMING ANY COUP IN ATHENS OR ANY CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT IN ATHENS?

A: NO.

Q: BUT I ASSUME FROM YOUR SUBSEQUENT AND PREVIOUS REMARKS THAT YOU STILL EXPECT THAT WHATEVER EMERGES POLITICALLY OR DOESN'T EMERGE, THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MEETING IN GENEVA WILL CONTINUE. IN OTHER WORDS, SOME GREEKS OF SOME SORT WILL ATTEND. (LAUGHTER)

A: JOE SISCO IS ON THE WAY BACK, AND IT IS MY IMPRESSION THAT HE WILL NOT SOON AGAIN VOLUNTEER FOR A MISSION. (LAUGHTER) BUT, BEFORE HE LEFT, HE HAD SOME TALKS WITH GREEK GOVERNMENTAL LEADERS; AND WE BELIEVE THAT THE UNCLASSIFIED

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ARRANGEMENTS THAT WERE MADE LAST NIGHT WILL STICK, THOUGH THERE MAY BE A DELAY OF 24 HOURS IN THE BEGINNING OF THE TALKS.

THIS IS WHY I SAID "PROBABLY ON WEDNESDAY," BUT I THINK THAT THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MAINTAINED.

Q: WHETHER HE VOLUNTEERS OR NOT, WILL YOU SEND HIM TO GENEVA?

A: NO. I NEED HIM HERE NOW. I'M SENDING BILL BUFFUM, THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, TO GENEVA.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT RESTORING THINGS TO THEIR PRIOR STATE, WHAT WOULD YOU RECOMMEND BE DONE WITH THE FORCE OF 650 GREEK MILITARY OFFICERS -- WHICH SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN SUCH A CRITICAL ISSUE?

A: WELL, I THINK THIS IS AN ISSUE THAT WILL HAVE TO BE SETTLED IN GENEVA BECAUSE IT HAD ONE CONNOTATION LAST WEEK AND IT MAY HAVE A DIFFERENT CONNOTATION IN A DIFFERENT CONTEXT UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN THERE ARE LARGE TURKISH FORCES ON THE ISLAND.

LET ME SAY, INCIDENTALLY, THAT LAST WEEK THE OBSTACLE WAS NOT WHAT POSITION THE UNITED STATES MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT HAVE TAKEN ON THE 650 GREEK OFFICERS, BECAUSE WE WERE WILLING TO SUPPORT ANY SOLUTION LAST WEEK THAT COULD GAIN THE CONSENSUS OF, SAY, TURKEY AND BRITAIN. THE DIFFICULTY WAS THAT A SERIES OF DEMANDS WERE MADE IN WHICH THIS WAS ONLY A SMALL PART THAT GREW UNACCEPTABLE AS BETWEEN TURKEY

AND BRITAIN. AND, THEREFORE, WE NEVER GOT TO THE ISSUE OF THE 650 OFFICERS. SO WHAT CONCRETE POSITION WE WILL TAKE WILL DEPEND SOMEWHAT ON THE POSITION THE PARTIES TAKE.

Q: WELL, WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR TROOPS ON BOTH SIDES TO REMAIN BEHIND?

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A: IT IS POSSIBLE FOR TROOPS OF BOTH SIDES TO REMAIN BEHIND; IT IS POSSIBLE FOR TROOPS OF BOTH SIDES TO LEAVE; IT IS POSSIBLE FOR TROOPS OF BOTH SIDES TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED. SO IT IS, AT THIS POINT, DIFFICULT TO PREDICT WHAT THE PRECISE OUTCOME WILL BE BECAUSE, OBVIOUSLY, WHEN YOU HAVE SOME SIX-THOUSAND TURKISH TROOPS ON THE ISLAND, YOU'RE IN A DIFFERENT SITUATION THAN YOU WERE LAST WEEK.

Q: ARE YOU GOING TO USE --

Q: MR. SECRETARY, DOES THE UNITED STATES HAVE A POSITION ON PARTITION?

A: OUR POSITION IS THAT WE SUPPORT THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND SOVEREIGNTY OF CYPRUS AND, THEREFORE, THIS WOULD NOT BE AN AMERICAN SOLUTION; AND WE DON'T THINK THAT THIS IS A LIKELY OUTCOME. BUT AT THIS STAGE IT IS DIFFICULT FOR US TO WRITE THE SCENARIO OF A NEGOTIATION THAT HASN'T STARTED.

MR. BINDER?

Q: MR. KISSINGER, THERE WAS A REPORT OF A JOINT BRITISH-U.S. NOTE TO THE GREEK AND TURKISH GOVERNMENTS CALLING FOR A CEASE-FIRE, A TOUGHLY WORDED NOTE.

A: THE EXACT SEQUENCE IS THAT I FIRST MADE THE PROPOSAL ON THE TELEPHONE TO PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT AROUND 6 O'CLOCK, U.S. TIME, LAST NIGHT. AND IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE UNITED STATES MADE A CONCRETE PROPOSAL IN WHICH IT SAID SOMETHING OTHER THAN WE PROPOSE A CEASE-FIRE. WE SAID WE PROPOSE A CEASE-FIRE AT THIS HOUR TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THIS MANNER.

THIS WAS FOLLOWED UP BY A PRESIDENTIAL LETTER TO THE PRESIDENTS OF GREECE AND TURKEY, AND THIS IN TURN WAS BACKED BY A BRITISH NOTE AND A COMMON MARKET NOTE.

I BELIEVE THAT SEVERAL OF THESE NOTES ARRIVED AFTER THE PARTIES HAD ALREADY ACCEPTED THE CEASE-FIRE. BUT GIVEN

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THE STAGGERED TIMING FOR FIRST AN AMERICAN ANNOUNCEMENT AND THEN A CONFIRMATION OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT BY GREECE

AND TURKEY, WE PERMITTED THESE NOTES THAT DID EXPRESS THE URGENCY EVERYONE FELT TO BE DELIVERED BY ALL THE PARTIES -- BY ALL OUR FRIENDS AND OURSELVES -- SO THAT THE PARTIES KNEW THAT THIS WAS A MATTER THAT WAS NOT TAKEN LIGHTLY IN THE UNITED STATES AND IN EUROPE, AND THAT THERE WAS TOTAL UNANIMITY OF VIEW BETWEEN EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES ON THIS ISSUE.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, YOUR EXPECTATIONS THAT THE GENEVA TALKS MAY IN FACT TAKE PLACE WITH ONLY A 24-HOUR SLIPPAGE WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE THAT WHATEVER MAY OR MAY NOT BE HAPPENING IN GREECE DID NOT TAKE YOU BY COMPLETE SURPRISE.

A: IF I ANSWER THIS QUESTION, I GET INTO MAJOR DIFFICULTIES, BECAUSE IF I SAY IT TOOK US BY COMPLETE SURPRISE, YOU WILL SAY "INTELLIGENCE FAILURE." AND IF I SAY IT DIDN'T TAKE US BY COMPLETE SURPRISE, YOU WILL SAY OTHER THINGS. (LAUGHTER)

MAY I MAKE ONE GENERAL POINT. I HAVE READ MANY LEARNED ARTICLES DURING THE WEEK OF WHY WE WERE TAKEN BY SURPRISE BY THE COUP IN CYPRUS, AND I SIMPLY WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT TO YOU LADIES AND GENTLEMEN THAT OBVIOUSLY THE MAN MOST CONCERNED IN CYPRUS, NAMELY ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS ALSO WAS TAKEN BY SURPRISE, SO THAT THE INFORMATION WAS NOT EXACTLY LYING ON THE STREET.

LATE IN THE DAY YESTERDAY, IT BECAME APPARENT IN ATHENS THAT THERE WAS A CERTAIN RESTIVENESS, SO THAT IN THIS SENSE, WE WERE AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THE EVENTS OF THE LAST WEEK WERE NOT CONSIDERED UNANIMOUSLY IN ATHENS AS A COMPLETE SUCCESS. AND THIS GAVE A PARTICULAR URGENCY TO THE NEED TO BRING ABOUT A CEASE-FIRE DURING THE NIGHT AND IT WAS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY WE TOOK A RATHER ACTIVE AND EVEN MORE ACTIVE ROLE TOWARDS THE END OF THE DAY. SO WE HAD SOME GENERAL INFORMATION.

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MARILYN. I'LL TAKE TWO MORE QUESTIONS.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, BEFORE THE TURKISH INVASION, DID THE UNITED STATES WARN THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT THAT IT WOULD LOSE AID IF IT MOVED, MILITARY AID?

A: NO, BUT WE MADE VERY CLEAR THAT WE WERE VERY STRONGLY OPPOSED TO MILITARY ACTION.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT THE 3,000

AMERICANS ON THE ISLAND? ARE THEY GOING TO BE TAKEN OUT?

A: THE AMERICANS ARE BEING EVACUATED. I THINK --

Q: BY U.S. FORCES?

A: BY AMERICAN HELICOPTERS. WE HAVE OFFERED THE BRITISH THAT WE WOULD BE WILLING TO SEND IN A MARINE COMPANY TO THE BRITISH BASE IF THAT WOULD HELP THEM, IF THEIR FACILITIES WERE OVERLOADED. I DON'T BELIEVE THEY HAVE ACCEPTED IT YET, AND IT MAY NOT BE NECESSARY, BUT AMERICAN HELICOPTERS WILL TAKE THEM OFF THE BRITISH BASE, AND THEN THERE IS AN ENCLAVE NEAR KYRENIA ABOUT WHICH WE HAVE NOW BEGUN NEGOTIATIONS FOR THEIR REMOVAL.

I MIGHT ALSO SAY THAT WE HAVE BEEN ASKED BY THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO HELP THEM IN THE EVACUATION OF SOME OF THEIR 150 CIVILIANS IN NISCOSIA. A SOVIET SHIP IS GOING INTO THE PORT -- I NEVER CAN REMEMBER THE NAME -- IN THE SOUTH OF CYPRUS, AND WE ARE COOPERATING WITH THE SOVIET UNION TO BRING THIS ABOUT.

LAST QUESTION.

Q: MRSECRETARY, WHAT IS OUR POLICY NOW ON RECOGNITION OF GOVERNMENTS? ARE WE PREPARED TO RECOGNIZE WHATEVER GOVERNMENT WILL COME TO POWER IN GREECE, IN CYPRUS?

A: WELL, OUR BASIC POLICY IS TO RECOGNIZE DE FACTO GOVERNMENTS. IN CYPRUS, IT IS A MORE COMPLICATED PROBLEM, BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENTS IN CYPRUS ALSO HAVE RESULTED

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FROM CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS THAT HAVE INTERNATIONAL SANCTION, AND THEREFORE WE WOULD EXPECT THIS TO BE THE SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATION AND NOT SIMPLY BE DECIDED ON A DE FACTO BASIS.

THANK YOU, VERY MUCH. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE158901
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MJERABEK:VRM/SS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740197-1135
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740727/aaaaaxew.tel
Line Count: 536
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 10
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 OCT 2002 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <17 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RESS CONFERENCE BY SECRETARY KISSINGER ON CYPRUS SITUATION JULY 22
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, CY, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: NATO POSTS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005